

Colchester Port Health Authority.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1954.

Section 1. Staff As for last year Table A.

Section 2. Amount of shipping entering district during year.

Ships from :	Table B.		No. inspected		No. having Inspector had infect- ious disease on board.
	Number :	Tonnage :	By M.O.H.	By Sanitary	
Foreign Ports	149	17,708	nil		
Coastwise	1774	134,816	nil	291	nil
Totals	1923	152,524	nil	291	nil

Table C.

Passenger traffic Nil inward or outward

Cargo traffic Principal imports : Clay, coal, timber, petrol and corn.
Principal exports : Gravel, sand, and flour.

Principal ports from which ships arrive :- London, Newcastle, and Fur (Denmark)

Sections 4 to 8 incl. As previously.

Section 9. Table D. Nil throughout

Sections 10 and 11 As last year.

Section 12. As for 1952

Table E Nil throughout
Table F. As for 1952

Section 13 : Inspection of ships for nuisances Table G.

Nature of inspections	Number	Notices served		Result of serving notices
		Statutory :	Informal	
Sanitary Defects	286	nil	41	Cleansing and repairs carried out.
Rat infestation	286	nil	9	Verbal advice given
Water boats	5	nil	nil	

General remarks : Although the volume of shipping using the Port during the year has increased, the general standard of cleanliness has been very good. New vessels commissioned for carrying gravel and sand, and petrol have excellent accommodation and sanitary facilities.

Much of the increase in volume of shipping has been due to the large number of motor barges carrying gravel and sand from the Fingringhoe Sand Works, and periodical visits have been made to the loading jetty.

Water samples were taken from 2 Admiralty Water Carriers refitted at Brightlingsea and also from one new motor Minesweeper at Wivenhoe Shipyard. All these vessels had multiple water tanks and six chemical and six bacteriological samples were taken in each case. Advice was also given on sterilisation of tanks and pipelines by means of proprietary brands of Sodium Hypochlorite.

(2)

On one occasion, the river at Colchester was very discoloured by Oxide. The matter was taken up with the Eastern Gas Board from whose riverside works the effluent was discharged.

It is regretted that Mr. R. Boast, having obtained an appointment in London is shortly resigning his post as Port Sanitary Officer, a post which he has held for eleven years with conspicuous success.

John O. Kershaw.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

16th. March, 1955.